

ARRESTS

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HOMICIDE ARRESTS

Unlike crimes, which are classified by nationwide Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) standards, arrests are reported by California statute definition of the offense.¹ This may cause some differences in the definitions of certain crimes and the reporting of the arrests for those crimes. For instance, the California definition of a homicide arrest includes murder and *nonvehicular* manslaughter. The federal definition of a homicide crime includes murder and *nonnegligent* (nonaccidental) manslaughter.

All California law enforcement agencies report arrest and citation information to the California Department of Justice on the "Monthly Arrest and Citation Register," which lists each arrestee; includes information about age, gender, and race/ethnic group; and specifies the "most serious" arrest offense and law enforcement disposition.

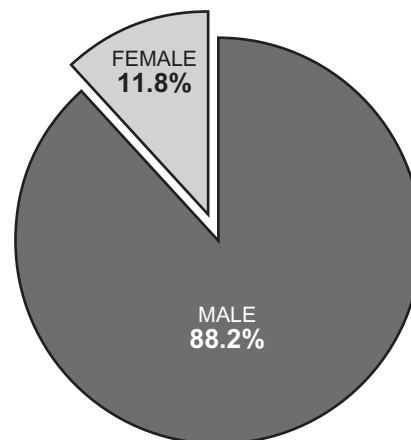
In 2004, of 1,978 arrests for homicide:

- 88.2 percent (1,745) of arrestees were male.
- 11.8 percent (233) of arrestees were female.

 ***In 2004, nearly 9 out of 10 homicide arrestees were male (88.2 percent).***

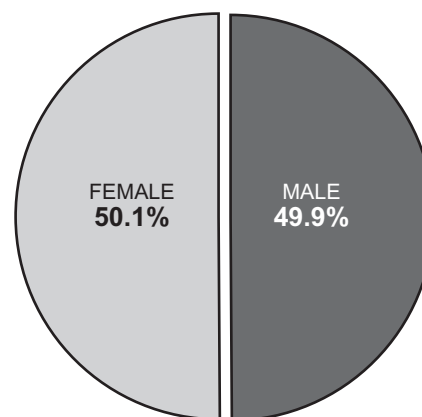
¹ The following penal codes for homicide arrest offenses were valid at the time of the closeout of the 2004 arrest offense code file: 128, 187(a), 189, 192(a), 192(b), 193(a), 193(b), 273ab, 399, and 12310(a).

Figure 38
HOMICIDE ARRESTS, 2004
By Gender of Arrestee



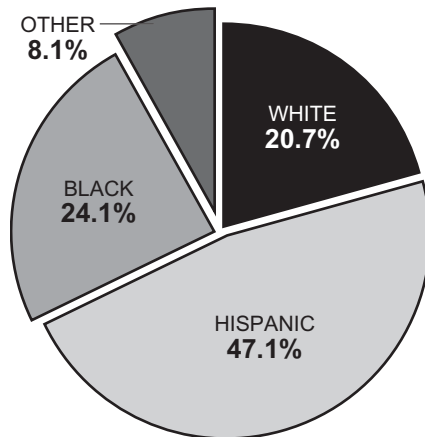
Source: Table 30.

Figure 39
POPULATION IN CALIFORNIA, 2004
By Gender



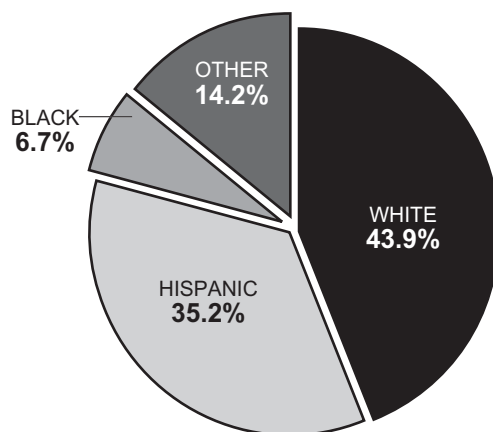
Source: Table 2.

Figure 40
HOMICIDE ARRESTS, 2004
By Race/Ethnic Group of Arrestee



Source: Table 31.

Figure 41
POPULATION IN CALIFORNIA, 2004
By Race/Ethnic Group



Source: Table 3.

In 2004, of 1,978 arrests for homicide:

- 20.7 percent (409) of arrestees were white.
- 47.1 percent (932) of arrestees were Hispanic.
- 24.1 percent (476) of arrestees were black.
- 8.1 percent (161) of arrestees fell into the "other" race/ethnic group category.

The subjectivity of the classification and labeling process must be considered in the analysis of race/ethnic group data. As commonly used, race refers to large populations which share certain similar physical characteristics such as skin color. Because these physical characteristics can vary greatly within groups as well as between groups, determination of race is frequently, by necessity, subjective. Ethnicity refers to cultural heritage and can cross racial lines. For example, the ethnic designation "Hispanic" includes persons of any race. Most commonly, self-identification of race/ethnicity is used in the classification and labeling process.



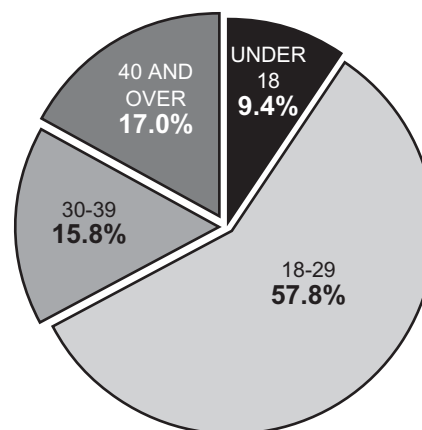
In 2004, the largest percentage of homicide arrestees were Hispanic (47.1 percent).

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In 2004, of 1,978 arrests for homicide:

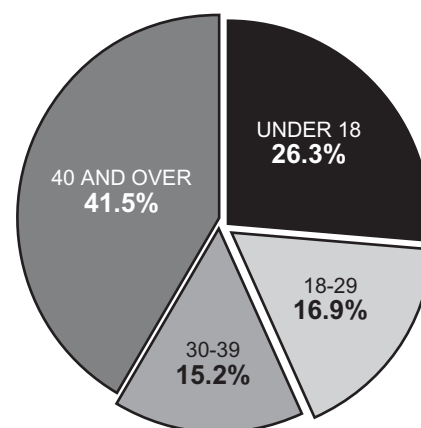
- 9.4 percent (185) of arrestees were under age 18.
- 57.8 percent (1,143) of arrestees were aged 18-29.
- 15.8 percent (313) of arrestees were aged 30-39.
- 17.0 percent (337) of arrestees were aged 40 and over.

Figure 42
HOMICIDE ARRESTS, 2004
By Age of Arrestee



Source: Table 32.

Figure 43
POPULATION IN CALIFORNIA, 2004
By Age



Source: Table 4.

Note: Percentages do not add to 100.0 because of rounding.


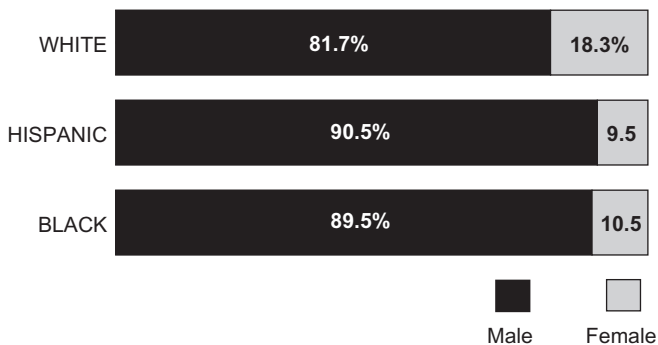
 ***In 2004, the majority of homicide arrestees were aged 18-29 (57.8 percent).***

Figure 44
HOMICIDE ARRESTS, 2004
Race/Ethnic Group of Arrestee by Gender of Arrestee



Source: Table 33.

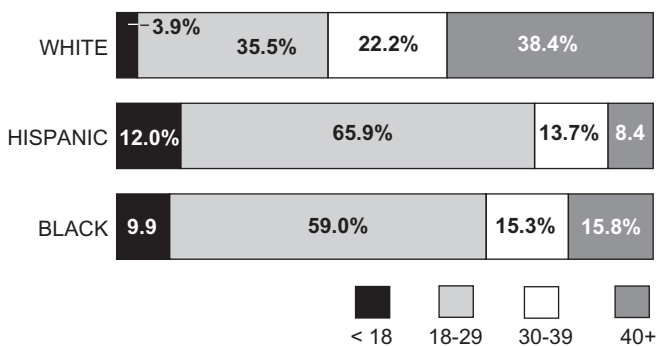
In 2004,

- Homicide arrestees for all three race/ethnic groups shown were predominately male.
- A greater percentage of white arrestees were female than were Hispanic or black arrestees (18.3 vs. 9.5 and 10.5 percent, respectively).

And,

- A greater percentage of white arrestees were aged 40 and over than were Hispanic or black arrestees (38.4 vs. 8.4 and 15.8 percent, respectively).
- The largest percentage of homicide arrestees for Hispanics and blacks fell into the “18-29” age category (65.9 and 59.0 percent, respectively).

Figure 45
HOMICIDE ARRESTS, 2004
Race/Ethnic Group of Arrestee by Age of Arrestee



Source: Table 33.